



PRESS RELEASE

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NOVEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA – Commercial red meat production during November 2005 totaled 900,000 pounds. This was 1 percent below November 2004 production but up 4 percent from the October 2005 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1.3 million pounds live weight, up 8 percent from November 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,400 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 942 pounds, was down 5 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 296,000 pounds live weight, up 14 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,100 head, up 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 277 pounds, was down 2 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES -- Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.94 billion pounds in November, up 5 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in November 2004.

Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, up 5 percent from November 2004. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,284 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.4 million pounds, 10 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56,300 head, down 17 percent from November 2004. The average live weight was 29 pounds above last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.84 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.13 million head, 2 percent above November 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.8 million pounds, was down 4 percent from November 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 224,500 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 5 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2005 commercial red meat production was 41.8 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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